

REMARKS

In response to the Decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (Appeal No. 2005-0357) mailed May 23, 2005 and telephonic interview with Examiner Poon on August 19, 2005, the changes and remarks presented herewith are believed sufficient to place the present invention in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-4, 6-8 and 11 of which the Board had affirmed the rejection thereof. Applicants have amended claims 9 and 10 to incorporate the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Since this amendment does not involve any introduction of new matter, entry is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

The Board reversed the Examiner's rejection of claims 9-10 and 12-22. During the telephonic interview with Examiner Poon on August 19, 2005, the Examiner indicated that he would allow these claims upon cancellation of the claims whose rejection was affirmed by the Board. Applicants have cancelled the previously rejected claims whose rejection thereof has been affirmed by the Board. Applicants have amended claims 9 and 10 which contain allowable subject matter, but were dependent on rejected claims. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 9-10 and 12-22, as presently amended, are allowable.

It is believed that this amendment places the present invention in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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